

Application SN 09/990,152
Amendment Dated: March 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: November 21, 2003

Amendments to Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of re-surfacing an information bearing disc of the type having a protective surface overlying an information layer in which the protective surface has blemishes ~~or scratches~~, a said information layer extending from the peripheral edge of the disc to a center band, said method comprising:

- (a) positioning ~~[[the]]~~ a disc on a first generally vertical shaft with the information layer disposed downwardly;
- (b) positioning a resilient pad on a second shaft in parallel relationship with said first shaft with said resilient pad supporting an upwardly facing re-surfacing material ~~[[first]]~~ having a predetermined first abrasiveness, said pad and re-surfacing material being selected so ~~as to overlap~~ the information layer overlaps the pad and re-surfacing material extending from the periphery only to approximately the center band of the disc;
- (c) rotating said first and second shafts in opposite rotational directions at approximately the same speed of between 700 rpm to 1750 rpm;
- (d) applying a fluid to the upwardly facing re-surfacing material; and

Application SN 09/990,152
Amendment Dated: March 16, 2004
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- (e) continuing ~~said rotation~~ rotating said shafts until at least a substantial portion of any ~~blemish or scratch~~ blemishes in the protective layer of the disc is removed.

5 2. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein said disc is subjected to subsequent re-surfacing comprising repeating the steps (a) to (d) with an abrasive material having a second abrasiveness less than the first abrasiveness.

10 3. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 2 wherein said disc is subjected to a polishing operation comprising the steps of:

- (a) positioning the disc on a first generally vertically shaft with the re-surfaced surface disposed downwardly;
- (b) positioning a polishing pad on a second shaft in parallel relationship with said first shaft with said polishing pad having an upwardly facing polishing surface;
- 15 (c) said pad having a diameter selected to overlap the information layer extending from the periphery of the disc only to approximately the center band;

Application SN 09/990,152
Amendment Dated: March 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: November 21, 2003

- (d) rotating said first and second shafts in opposite rotational directions at approximately the same speed;
- (e) applying a polishing composition to the pad; and
- (f) continuing said rotation until the surface is polished.

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4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein a non-petroleum based polishing compound is applied to the ~~upper surface of the pad~~ re-surfacing material.

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5. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein one of said disc and resilient pad are axially adjusted on its associated shaft to obtain full contact ~~there~~ between the pad and the disc.

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6. (Originally presented) The method of Claim 1 further including the step of applying a bearing force to the upwardly facing surface of the disc to maintain the disc flat and to prevent slipping while re-surfacing.